

August 23, 2006

Mr. Carl Walker, President Greater Houston Restaurant Association 5900 Memorial, Suite 218 Houston, TX 77007

Dear Mr. Walker:

Thank you and the Greater Houston Restaurant Association (GHRA) for publicly supporting an expansion of the current smoking ordinance.

Recently, the U.S. Surgeon General stated in his report: *The Health Consequences of Involuntary Exposure to Tobacco Smoke* that a study on California workers showed a decrease in secondhand smoke concentrations by more than 90% after a smoking ban. I am glad that you recognize similar benefits will result from a full smoking ban in the City of Houston.

I would like to invite you to share your support with the Council Committee on Environmental and Public Health on Thursday, August 24, 2006 at 2:00pm in City Council Chambers.

I look forward to working with you on this very important matter. Together, we can provide a cleaner and healthier environment for all Houstonians.

Sincerely,

Carol Alvarado

Council Member, District I

Chair, Committee on Environmental & Public Health

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